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Kim Jong Il Born in Mt. Paektu

A journalist of Korea Pictorial had an interview with anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Kim Jong Il.

Journalist: Now the Korean service personnel and people are commemorating February 16, the Day of the Shining Star, when Kim Jong Il was born, with a feeling of yearning for him.

I think you, anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters, feel extraordinary as you were the first to greet the birth of Kim Jong Il as an auspicious event of the nation.

Kim Ok Sun: You're right. They say time flies like an arrow, but even after so many years I still remember those days when we were full of happiness.

It was a great event heralding a bright future of the Korean nation that Kim Jong Il was born in Mt. Paektu, the sacred place where the Korean revolution struck its roots after Kim Il Sung began to lead the anti-Japanese war for the restoration of our country.

Kim Chol Man: The soldiers of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army shouted cheers of "Long live the Shining Star of Mt. Paektu!" Dominated by an irresistible impulse to inform all the people of this happy event of having another general who would inherit the revolutionary cause of General Kim Il Sung, legendary hero of the anti-Japanese struggle, we wrote on the trees such slogans as "O, the Shining Star was born in Mt. Paektu!", "Listen and see, compatriots, the Shining Star was born in Mt. Paektu assuring the succession of the cause of Commander Kim," and "Long live the Shining Star of Mt. Paektu that was born brightening the 3 000-ri land" wherever we went.

His birth in Mt. Paektu was known far and wide all over the country as a legend.

Ri Yong Suk: Kim Jong Il was born in a log-cabin in the deep forest of Mt. Paektu, with no address, and grew up with sounds of gunfire of the anti-Japanese war as a lullaby.

We women guerrillas felt very sorry we could not obtain new clothes for him who was born as the Shining Star of Korea. We had to make clothes for him by shortening military uniforms, and patched bits of cloth into a quilt for him. To look back upon that day now,...

Journalist: As he was born as a son of Mt. Paektu, son of the guerrillas, during the grimmest days, he grew up sturdily as the son of the country and people and the successor to the revolutionary cause of Juche.

Jon Sun Hui: In his early days he was educated by his

parents, Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Suk, to develop dispositions and personality of a general with the soul of Mt. Paektu.

Ri Ui Sol: Already in his days in Mt. Paektu he acquainted himself with military affairs and nurtured his love of guns. At that time we began to call him "little general" with earnest desire and expectation that he would become a brilliant commander like Kim Il Sung who had the Japanese imperialists perfectly under his control.

Kim Ok Sun: Kim Jong Il had always fostered his aim to add brilliance to Korea in succession to President Kim Il Sung.

He resolutely safeguarded the revolutionary achievements of the President from the difficult days of the Fatherland Liberation War and the post-war rehabilitation.

He established for the first time in Korea a systematic way to study the revolutionary ideas of President Kim Il Sung in his early days. In his middle school days he pioneered the march to the revolutionary battle sites in the Mt. Paektu area, thus encouraging all the people across the country to safeguard the glorious revolutionary traditions the President had made in the flames of anti-Japanese struggle.

Ri Ui Sol: In the grim ordeals of the Fatherland Liberation War he lived with the President at the Supreme Headquarters of the Korean People's Army, and cultivated wisdom and courage as befits a brilliant commander.

When the President gave him a pistol associated with significant stories in July 1952, he made up his mind to take it as a "relay baton" to continue to make a revolution throughout his life.

Jon Sun Hui: He was highly respected for his outstanding intelligence, wisdom and profound knowledge of nature and society, as well as his warm love for the people and unassuming personality.

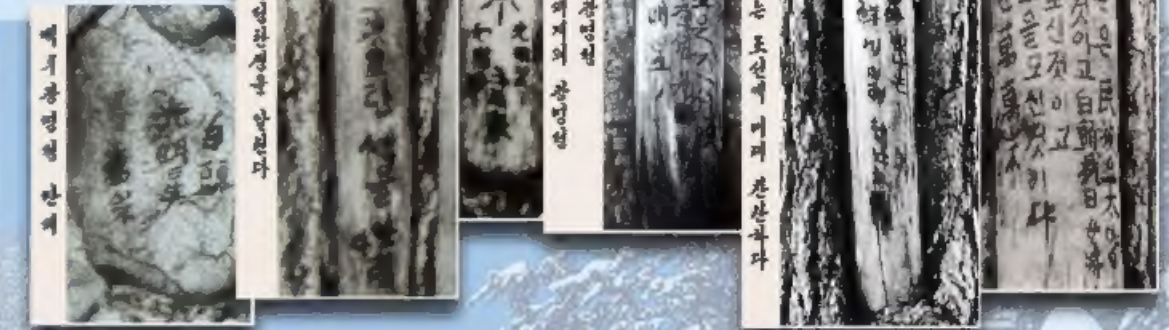
Kim Jong Il was a peerlessly great man who cultivated all the traits and virtues as befits a leader braving through the tempest of the history.

We, anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters, will hold him for ever as the Sun of Juche, like in the days when we regarded him as the Shining Star of Mt. Paektu.

Journalist: It is the unanimous will of all our service personnel and people.

Kim Jong Il will live for ever in the hearts of our service personnel and people.

Letters written by members of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army, blessing the birth of Kim Jong Il.



February, on which Kim Jong Il's birthday falls, has come when the Korean people are on the vigorous onward march for a great upsurge to glorify this year that marks the centenary of the birth of President Kim Il Sung as a proud year noteworthy in the history of their nation.

The Korean army and people look back on the immortal feats of Kim Jong Il who demonstrated their country's dignity and might by his Songun-based revolutionary leadership, with a determination to bring to completion the revolutionary cause of Juche pioneered by President Kim Il Sung.

Oath Taken on Ryongnam Hill



Kim Jong Il in his days at Kim Il Sung University.

Kim Jong Il entered Kim Il Sung University on September 1, Juche 49 (1960). That day he composed a poem **O Korea, I Will Add Glory to Thee**, an immortal work, on Ryongnam Hill.

As I stand on Ryongnam Hill at sunrise,
The land of 3 000 ri greets my eyes.
Learning the leader's great idea,
I will be the master of the revolution in this land, Korea.
O Korea, I will add glory to thee.

On the road of Juche I will be firm and steady
Under the guidance of the great leader.
Braving the raging waves and storms,

I will lead Korea into the future.
O Korea, I will make thee famous.

I will go on for ever with the cause of the Sun
That shines over the whole world.
I will bring about the era of communism
When the red glow of Juche will cover the earth.
O Korea, My Korea!

Along with the oath of the peerlessly great man, socialist
Korea has advanced winning victory and glory through decades.



조선아 너를 빛내리
해돋는 룡남산 마루에 서니
삼천리강산이 가슴에 안겨온다
이 땅에서 수령님 뉘는 뜻배워
조선혁명 책임진 주인이 되리
아, 조선아 너를 빛내리
위대한 수령님 뉘이 모시고
주체의 원리로 억해져 나아가리
사나운 룡광도 무용도 해해
조선을 이끌고 미래로 가리
아, 조선아 너를 떨치리
우리에 빛나는 태양의 위업
대를 이어 해빛으로 이어가리라
주체의 붉은 노을 지구를 덮을
공산주의 그날을 앞당겨오리
아, 조선아! 나의 조선아!



Kim Jong Il continues to develop in depth the Juche idea with unusual wisdom and through prominent ideological and theoretical activities (May 1985).

Energetic Ideological and Theoretical Activities

Kim Jong Il was a genius of ideology and theory and a great statesman who illuminated the correct way to building socialism and achieving the independent cause of mankind through his unusual thinking and inquiry and energetic activities.

Having formulated in his early days the revolutionary ideas of President Kim Il Sung as the integrated system of Juche idea, theory and method, he made tireless efforts to develop them in depth in line with the demand of the times and the country's specific conditions during the whole period of leading the revolution and construction. ***On the Juche Idea, Socialism Is a Science, On the Fundamentals of Revolutionary Party Building, Giving Priority to Ideological Work Is Essential for Accomplishing Socialism*** and many other treatises, letters, speeches and talks published by him brightly illumine the way ahead of the revolutionary struggle for independence.

It is the distinguished services he performed on the road of enriching and developing the President's revolutionary ideas

that Kim Jong Il put forward comprehensively the theory of unique Songun politics on the basis of the President's Songun idea and exploits of Songun-based revolutionary leadership.

Thanks to his extraordinary ideological and theoretical activities, the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK government have defended firmly the unity in ideology and purpose; by applying his lines and policies they have advanced successfully the socialist construction amid the unprecedentedly complicated situation.

Kim Jong Il strengthened the politico-ideological might of the revolutionary ranks in every way, regarding their single-hearted unity as a valuable sword for national prosperity.

Thanks to his wise leadership, the Korean army and people have acquired noble ideological and moral qualities, forming one community, in which they share the same destiny and help and lead one another forward, and display the superiority of the people-centred socialist system of their own style.



Kim Jong Il's ideas and theories illumine the way ahead of the progressive mankind.

Tower of the Juche Idea on the bank of the Taedong River in Pyongyang.



Upholding the Banner of Songun



Kim Jong Il visits the Dwarf-Pine Post (January 1995).



Columns of troops and mechanized columns of the KPA demonstrate the might of Songun.



Service personnel of the KPA and members of the Worker-Peasant Red Guards are fully ready for action in order to cope with the imperialists' aggressive manoeuvrings.

Kim Jong Il provided a strong military guarantee of building a thriving nation under the banner of Songun.

Having set up the Korean People's Army as the pillar of the country and the strong vanguard for achieving national prosperity, he continued to make the long journey of Songun revolution to strengthen and develop it into an invincible army firmly prepared politically and ideologically, militarily and technically. Aware that the only way out to frustrate

the ever more undisguised military aggressive machinations of the imperialist forces is to boost the country's own defence capabilities in every way, he powerfully called on the entire army and all the people to increase the nation's self-defence capabilities.

Under his leadership the DPRK became a country, where all the people are prepared militarily and the whole land is fortified, a military power with independent and modern defence industry.

For Building Economic Power and Improving People's Standard of Living

Kim Jong Il was a genius of creation and construction who brought about epoch-making changes on this land.

The seasoned and sophisticated leadership of Kim Jong Il who led the socialist economic construction to victory, organizing a series of bold and ambitious projects with his extraordinary organizational ability and revolutionary drive, was the key factor in providing a sound springboard for building an economic power and improving the people's standard of living by overcoming manifold trials and hardships.

Amidst the great upsurge for improving the people's standard of living, the economy continued to take on new appearances and the might of the independent national economy was strengthened day after day.

The factories and enterprises, which run on the basis of the cutting-edge science and technology and the resources abundant in the country, increased their production. The prospects for making a great stride in agricultural production are bright.

With the construction of new monumental structures, many towns and villages throughout the country were turned into socialist fairylands, literature and the arts of the Songun era greeted a golden age, and fine centres for leisure activities appeared.

The wonderful progress in the DPRK is fruition of the energetic leadership of Kim Jong Il who devoted his all solely to the welfare of the people, regarding it as his dictum to believe in people as in heaven.



Huichon Ryonha General Machine Factory.



Kim Jong Il gives on-site guidance at the Huichon Ryonha General Machine Factory (December 2010).



The metallurgical and vinalon industries are put on a Juche-oriented and modern basis on a high level.



Taegyedo reclaimed tideland.



Kim Jong Il gives on-site guidance at the land realigning project in Kangwon Province (March 1999).



Kim Jong Il gives on-site guidance at the Taedonggang General Fruit Processing Factory (July 2011).



Handure plain was realigned into standardized fields.



Taehongdan County, Ryanggang Province, an exemplary unit of potato farming.



Taedonggang Combined Fruit Farm.



Modern houses have been built in the capital city of Pyongyang, cities and farm villages.



Okryu Restaurant.



Kaeson Youth Park.

For National Reunification and Global Independence



Kim Jong Il signs the North-South Joint Declaration (June 2000).



Kim Jong Il meets Hu Jintao, president of China (May 2011).



Talks between Kim Jong Il and Dmitri Medvedev, president of Russia (August 2011).



Kim Jong Il meets Bill Clinton, former US president (August 2009).



Kim Jong Il and Koizumi Junichiro, prime minister of Japan, sign the DPRK-Japan Pyongyang Declaration (September 2002).



Three Charters for National Reunification Memorial Tower.

Kim Jong Il was the lodestar of national reunification, whom all the fellow countrymen looked up to and followed.

During the past several decades he devoted his all to achieving national reunification, throwing a fresh light on the way to accomplishing the cause of independent reunification in every period of the development of the revolution.

He took radical measures to promote travel, contacts and exchanges between the north and the south of Korea on the basis of the three charters for national reunification and the five-point policy of the great national unity. He



An event of re-linking railways between the north and the south in June 2003.

met persons from various circles in south Korea on their visits to Pyongyang, and inspired the whole nation to further efforts to reunify the country.

The adoption of the North-South Joint Declaration in June 2000 and the October 4 Declaration in October 2007 was a precious fruition of the far-reaching plan and extraordinary leadership of Kim Jong Il who dedicated his efforts to present the reunified country to his fellow countrymen without fail.

As there is a milestone for reunification illuminated by him, the Korean nation with a history of 5 000 years and brilliant culture will unfailingly greet the day of national reunification as Kim Jong Il wished.

Kim Jong Il was a veteran statesman and champion of the socialist cause, who enjoyed absolute support and respect of the progressive peoples of the world.

Holding high the banner of anti-imperialist struggle all his life, he created a model of socialist construction for the times and led the cause of independence of mankind. His historical exploit was that he put on a new track the world socialist movement which had been experiencing twists and turns after the end of the Cold War.

Through his energetic external activities Kim Jong Il, possessed of outstanding political abilities and noble virtue, provided a sure guarantee for independence of the world and for peace and prosperity in Northeast Asia, thus remarkably raising the international position and influence of the DPRK.

The service personnel and people of Korea will remember for ever the dignity and pride in having waged revolution and construction led by a great man, who had been revered and praised by the whole world.



Kim Jong Il meets a high-level delegation from the European Union (May 2001).



Kim Jong Il on the platform of the Conference of the Workers' Party of Korea (September 2010).



The dear respected Kim Jong Un.

Revolutionary Cause of Juche Brilliantly Carried Forward

The history of immortalizing the leader went on, thanks to the noble moral obligation of Kim Jong Il to the leader who pioneered the revolutionary cause.

He set forth the slogans of faith **"The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung will always be with us"** and **"Let us arm ourselves firmly with the revolutionary ideas of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung!"** and led the people to implement the behests of the President to the letter. Thus he ensured that the President's exploits shone for ages and socialist construction advanced in accordance with his will and in his way.

He saw to it that the Day of the Sun—April 15, the birthday of the President—and the Juche era with 1912 as the first year, when the President was born, were instituted. By his lofty intention the Socialist Constitution of the DPRK stipulates that

Kim Il Sung is the eternal President of the DPRK.

The Conference of the Workers' Party of Korea took place in Pyongyang in September 2010.

The conference demonstrated to the full the unanimous will and wishes of all the Party members, the service personnel and people to accomplish the revolutionary cause of Juche pioneered by Kim Il Sung and carried forward by Kim Jong Il through generations, holding Kim Jong Il in high esteem as the centre of unity and leadership.

Under the leadership of Kim Jong Un, supreme leader of the Workers' Party of Korea, the state and the army, now the revolutionary cause of Juche is continuously carried forward and the Korean service personnel and people speed up the advance of a new century of Kim Il Sung's Korea.



Participants in the Conference of the Workers' Party of Korea are full of determination to consummate the revolutionary cause of Juche from generation to generation.

Orders, Medals and Honorary Titles from Many Countries



Kim Jong Il is awarded an order from Kaysone Phomvihane, president of Laos (April 1992).



Kim Jong Il is awarded an order from Norodom Sihanouk, king of Cambodia (July 2004).



Kim Jong Il is awarded an order from Obiang Nguema Mbasogo, president of Equatorial Guinea (April 1992).

Kim Jong Il won boundless admiration of the world peoples for his contribution to the victorious advance of the new era of independence by dint of his profound thought and theory, outstanding leadership and noble virtues. He had been conferred by different countries all over the world more than 230 orders and medals, and 150 honorary titles.

In praise of his achievements made in strengthening the socialist movement and leading the anti-imperialist independent cause along the road of victory Order of Solidarity was awarded to him by Cuba, Order of Stalin by Russia and Karl Marx Medal by Italy. The Commemoration Medal of the 80th Anniversary of Independence of Finland was also conferred on him.

Famous cities, universities, political parties and social organizations across the world awarded him the honorary titles of citizenship, academicien, doctor, professor, chairman and leader, in high admiration of his services to the progress of mankind and development of science and culture.

Every one of orders, medals and honorary titles Kim Jong Il had been awarded has its touching story.

King Norodom Sihanouk of Cambodia conferred on Kim Il Sung and Kim Jong Il the highest order of his country, the Grand Cross of the Kingdom of Cambodia, which would be bestowed on the distinguished leaders of the world.

Former chairman of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent, being well aware of Kim Jong Il's greatness and his efforts for the cause of independence of the masses of the people, and his constant concern and support for the work of the league, visited Korea to present to Kim Jong Il the Commemoration Medal of the Founding of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent in the name of the national societies of around 160 countries affiliated with the league. The medal is the highest decoration of the league that is conferred upon only great persons.

These orders, medals and honorary titles reflect the boundless admiration and praise of the progressive peoples of the world for Kim Jong Il.

Article: Kim Kyong Hui



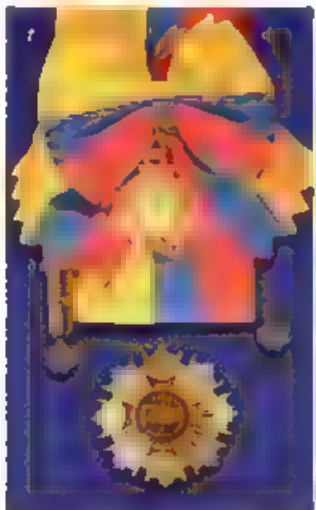
Kiyatikun Order, Laos (April 1992).



Golden Star of Peace Order, Mongolia (February 2002).



Solidarity Order, Cuba (February 1992).



Democracy Order, Colombia (January 1995).



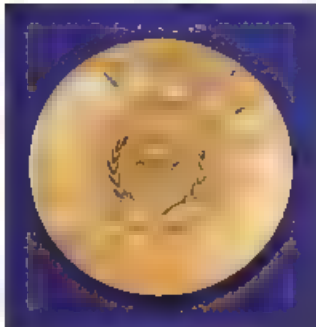
Title of Man of the Year 1994, Russia (January 1995).



Grand Address of Tribute 2000, Pakistan (November 2000).



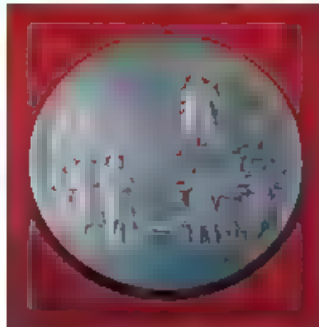
Certificate of Doctor of Political Science Honors Causa of Kensington University, USA (November 1986).



World Friendship Order, Libya (February 2002).



Karl Marx Medal, Italy (August 1994).



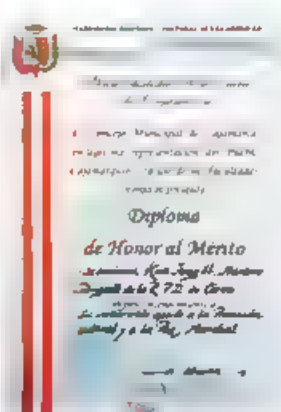
Medal in Commemoration of Lenin's April Theses, former USSR (May 1990).



Medal in Commemoration of the Paris Commune, France (April 1989).



International Award for Peace, Leadership, Friendship & Cooperation, Nigeria (October 1996).



Diploma of Honour of Cajamarca Province, Peru (September 1999).



Certificate of Inbarren City, Venezuela (October 1999).



Title of Honorary Doctor of Genghis Khan University, Mongolia (April 2001).

Gifts Full of Respect

Kim Jong Il enjoyed the boundless respect and trust from the world progressives as well as the Koreans for the great exploits he had made for his country and nation, the times and mankind. Such feelings are expressed in the gifts presented to him from many countries the world over.

Fascinated by his outstanding ideology, distinguished leadership and noble virtues, the heads of state and government, leaders of political parties, personages and groups of various social standings, and the people of many countries presented him gifts with their best wishes on the meaningful and significant occasions.

The gifts presented in token of the boundless reverence for

Kim Jong Il, who carried forward President Kim Il Sung's revolutionary cause with credit, amounted to over 27 000 pieces as of the 1980s.

In October Juche 79 (1990) that marked the 45th founding anniversary of the Workers' Party of Korea, hundreds of gifts were sent to him from over a hundred countries.

Since the mid-1990s Kim Jong Il pursued Songun politics on a full scale and ushered in the heyday of the Korean revolution. In a decade alone since then, when he categorically smashed the imperialists' moves to isolate and strangle socialism with his iron will and brilliant wisdom and exalted the country's dignity and honour, the world progressives presented

him more than 14 000 gifts.

In recent years the world peoples presented gifts, reflecting their unanimous praise of him as the genius of mankind and the world veteran statesman.

All the gifts, permeated with boundless reverence of mankind for Kim Jong Il, the leader of the new century of independence and peace, are beyond imagination in kind and content, style and value. They greatly encourage the Korean people who are stepping up socialist construction, true to the instructions of Kim Jong Il.

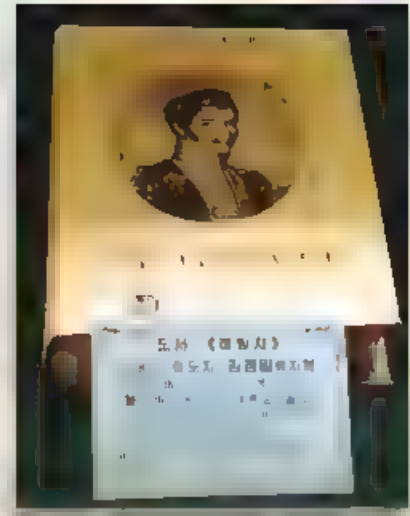
Article: Choe Kwang Hu



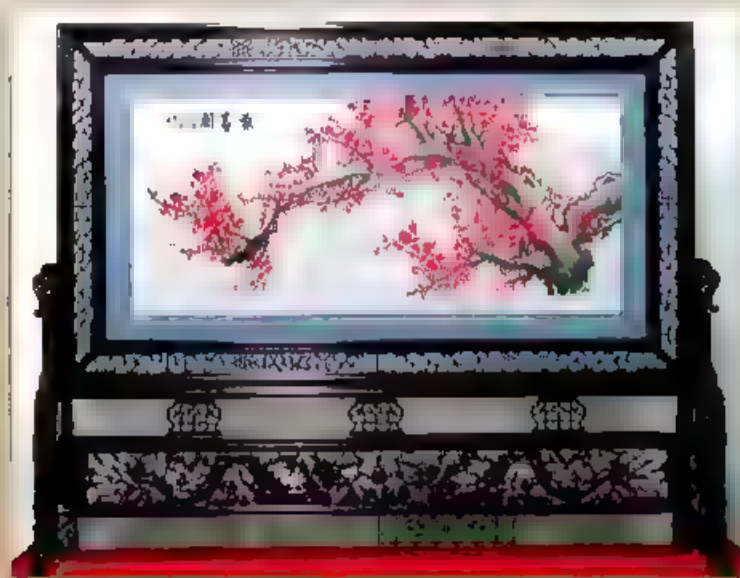
Gift from Sam Nujoma, president of Namibia (November 2000)



Gift from Mahmud Ahmadinejad, president of Iran (February 2008)



Gift from Hugo Chavez, president of Venezuela (May 2006)



Gift from Jiang Zemin, president of China (May 2000)



Gift from V.V. Putin, president of Russia (August 2005)



Gift from Fidel Castro, president of the Council of State of Cuba (February 1997)



Gift from Levy Mwanawasa, president of Zambia (October 2007)



Gift from a high-level delegation from the European Union (May 2001)



Gift from Kanemaru Shin, former deputy prime minister and member of the House of Representatives of Japan (February 1991)



Gift from Billy Graham, an American evangelist (April 1992)



Parts of gifts presented to Kim Jong Il from different countries



Fireworks display on Jong Il Peak in commemoration of the birth anniversary of Kim Jong Il February 16 (2009)

February 16, Greatest National Holiday



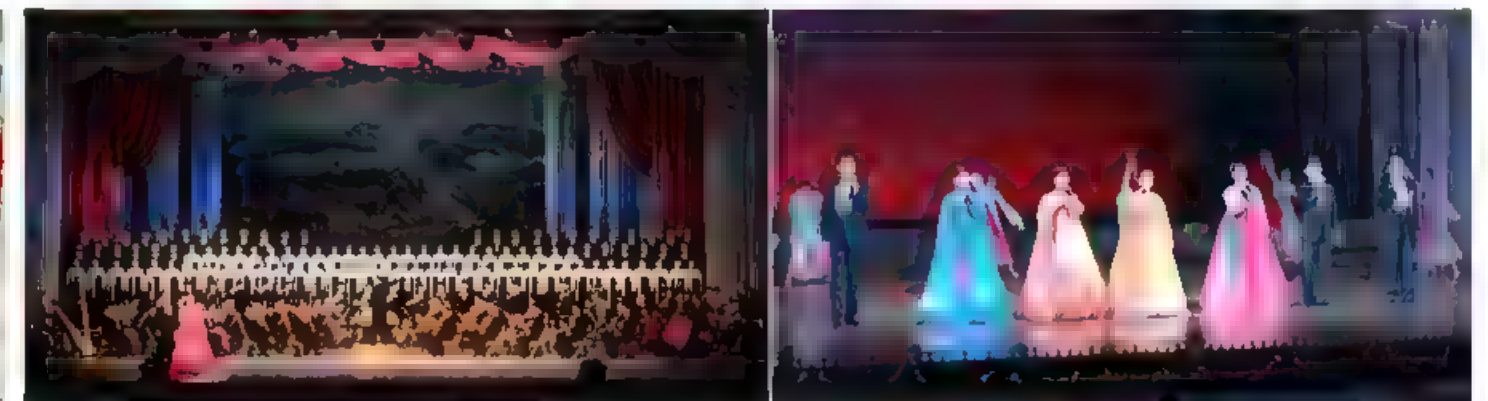
Foreigners visit Kim Jong Il's birthplace in the Paektusan Secret Camp (2007)



Successful Kimjongilia Festival (2009)



The national fine arts and photo shows in commemoration of February 16 (2009)



Concert (2011) and art performances (2009) were given

February 16 is the birthday of Kim Jong Il. The Korean people splendidly greeted the day as the greatest national holiday every year with the feelings of boundless respect and reverence for him.

Streets and villages across the country, including the capital city of Pyongyang, were in festive mood with decorations and posters.

Kimjongilia Festival was held in a grand style in the Kimilsungia-Kimjongilia Exhibition Hall on the bank of the picturesque Taedong River in Pyongyang, and Kimjongilia exhibitions took place in every province, drawing many people. Visitors became fascinated by the sea of Kimjongilias tended with great care by Koreans at home and abroad and foreigners.

Colourful functions such as pledge-taking rally at the Paektusan Secret Camp, national book, art and photo exhibitions on the occasion of February 16 were held in a grand style and the concerts and art performances at theatres drew a large audience.

February 16 was marked as an auspicious day in different countries of the world.

On the occasion of Kim Jong Il's birthday preparatory committees for commemorating meaningfully the February holiday were organized in many regions and countries, and such colourful functions as the forums on Kim Jong Il's exploits, lectures, film shows and book and photo shows were held with the

attendance of high-ranking personages of the political and public circles and the people of various social standings. Last year alone similar events to mark February 16 were held in over 90 countries and regions on more than 350 occasions. The participants in the events spoke highly of Kim Jong Il endowed with outstanding political ability and noble personality and expressed their boundless respect and reverence for him.

In January this year the DPRK designated February 16 when Kim Jong Il was born as the Day of the Shining Star, reflecting the ardent desire of the service personnel and people to venerate him for ever.

Now, not only the Korean people but the progressive peoples of the world commemorate the February holiday, strongly yearning for Kim Jong Il.

Article: Kim Sun Gyeong



Book and photo shows were held in different countries (2011)



The annual Paektusan Prize International Figure-skating Festival (2009)

Some books published in different countries in praise of Kim Jong Il



Everyone Praises

"Kim Jong Il defends justice and struggles for the well-being of the working people all over the world. He is an outstanding statesman with a definite purpose, an iron-willed commander and a benevolent leader who regards people's sorrows as his own. This is the reason why people revere and follow him faithfully at all times."

This is an excerpt from *The True Image of Korea*, a book written by Sergei Yunevich Levichev, president of the RIO-Press based in Krasnoyarsk, Russia, in 2008.

The author wrote this book on the basis of the actual facts he had learned and the impressions he had received during his visit to the DPRK, as to the great personality of its leader and the reality of his socialist country.

Many foreign figures in political and social circles published books and collections of poems in praise of Kim Jong Il.

Recent publications in Russia, Syria, Egypt, Bangladesh, Democratic Republic of Congo, Brazil and other countries include a collection of poems *The Eternal Sun of Hope* and books

The Great Banner of Victory, Korea in Kim Jong Il's Era, Prosperous Korea Seen through Clear Facts, On Kim Jong Il's Songun Politics, Politics of Dignity-Songun, Road to a Peaceful, New Century, Kim Jong Il's Korea and Reunification of Korea.

These publications introduce anecdotes and historic facts about the personality of the Korean leader. The authors wrote that the Korean people under his leadership were making a vigorous advance towards the goal of a thriving nation full of confidence and optimism. They praised high the leader for his great services to the Korean revolution and mankind's cause of independence.

These books, pictorials and collections of poems and lyrics, all of a few hundred kinds, clearly express boundless admiration of the world progressive peoples for Kim Jong Il, a peerless patriot who devoted himself entirely to his country and people and the cause of global independence.

Article: Choe Song Jun

Bring About a Great Upswing in Building a Thriving Nation, True to the Instructions of Kim Jong Il

When the Korean service personnel and people turned their greatest national sorrow into the one-thousand-fold strength and courage and rose up in the grand onward march for the new year with burning enthusiasm, South Hamgyong provincial mass rally took place on January 2 at Hamhung Square to vow to fully carry out the militant tasks set forth in the decision of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea, the joint slogans of the WPK Central Committee and Central Military Commission and this year's joint editorial.

The mass rally adopted a letter, appealing to the working people across the country to open the gates of a thriving country at any cost in 2012 that marks the centenary of the birth of President Kim Il Sung true to their pledge made in tears of blood before the bier of Kim Jong Il.

Similar rallies took place in Pyongyang and the provinces in the DPRK.

The mass rally in Pyongyang was held on January 3 at Kim Il Sung Square.

More than 100,000 citizens thronged the square. Mun Kyong Dok, alternate member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the WPK Central Committee who is concurrently chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Party Committee, delivered a keynote speech. He was followed by Pak Hyong Ryol, manager of the Pyongyang Cornstarch Factory, on behalf of the working class, Kim Yong Bok, chairwoman of the management board of the Mangyongdae Vegetable Farm in Mangyongdae District, on behalf of the agricultural workers, Ri Ung Il, first secretary of the youth league committee of Kim Il Sung University, on behalf of youths and students, and Ri Won Chol, vice-president of Kim Chaek University of Technology, on behalf of the intellectuals.

The speakers said that all the officials, Party members and working people in the capital city, as they greeted the new year in bitter tears over the so unexpected death of their leader Kim Jong Il, would speed up the revolutionary advance under the leadership of Kim Jong Un by holding up the slogan "Glorify this year 2012 as a year of proud victory, a year when an era of prosperity is unfolding, true to the instructions of the great General

Kim Jong Il!"

They noted that the officials and workers in the light industry and agriculture, the key sectors for the building of a thriving country, would produce more light-industry goods of high quality and bring about a boost in overall agricultural production, and thus contribute to the improvement of the people's living standards.

They continued that those in the power and coal industries would make a breakthrough in the general advance by vigorously launching the increased production campaign and that every sector and unit would spread the flames of the industrial revolution in the new century to push back the frontiers of technology and push the efforts to make the national economy Juche-oriented, modern and scientific.

They pointed out that the builders and citizens of Pyongyang would complete the construction in the Mansudae area and other major projects on the highest level and effect a radical turn in urban management and landscaping, thus unfolding a new golden age of Pyongyang in the Songun era.

The speakers said that they would cherish the faith that Kim Jong Il is always with them and live and work under the leadership of Kim Jong Un, thus building a thriving socialist country on this land without fail.

The rally adopted a resolution.

Full of revolutionary enthusiasm, the participants held a demonstration, holding the flags of the WPK and the DPRK and red flags.

The working people in the capital city are bringing about innovations every day in production and construction from the very beginning of the New Year.

Ministries and national agencies and factories, enterprises and other establishments in the city collected a large amount of scrap iron and sent it to the Chollima Steel Complex, a hive of activity to boost production, and manure to cooperative farms.

Not only the working people in the capital city but also the service personnel and people across the country are bringing about a great upswing in the building of a thriving country with a high degree of enthusiasm.



Participants in the South Hamgyong provincial mass rally are full of determination to stand at the head of the ranks of general forward march of the whole country, fanning the flames of Hamnam



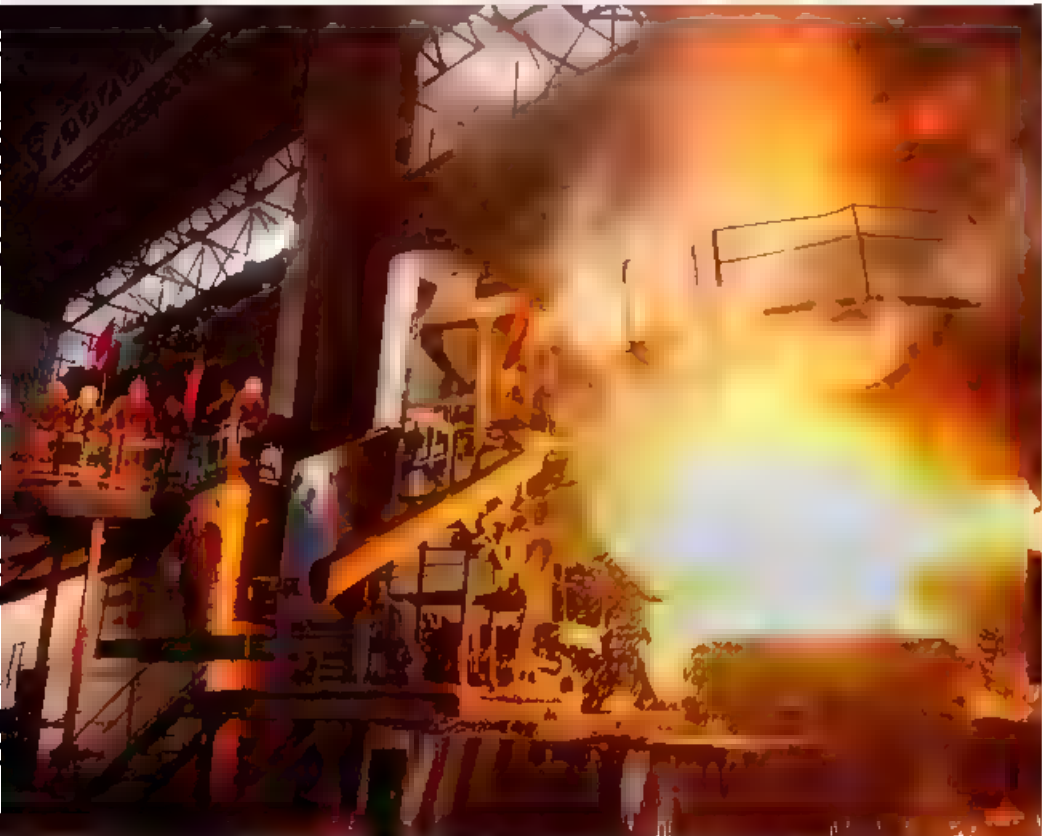
Participants in the Pyongyang mass rally are filled with determination to bring about a great upswing in building a thriving nation



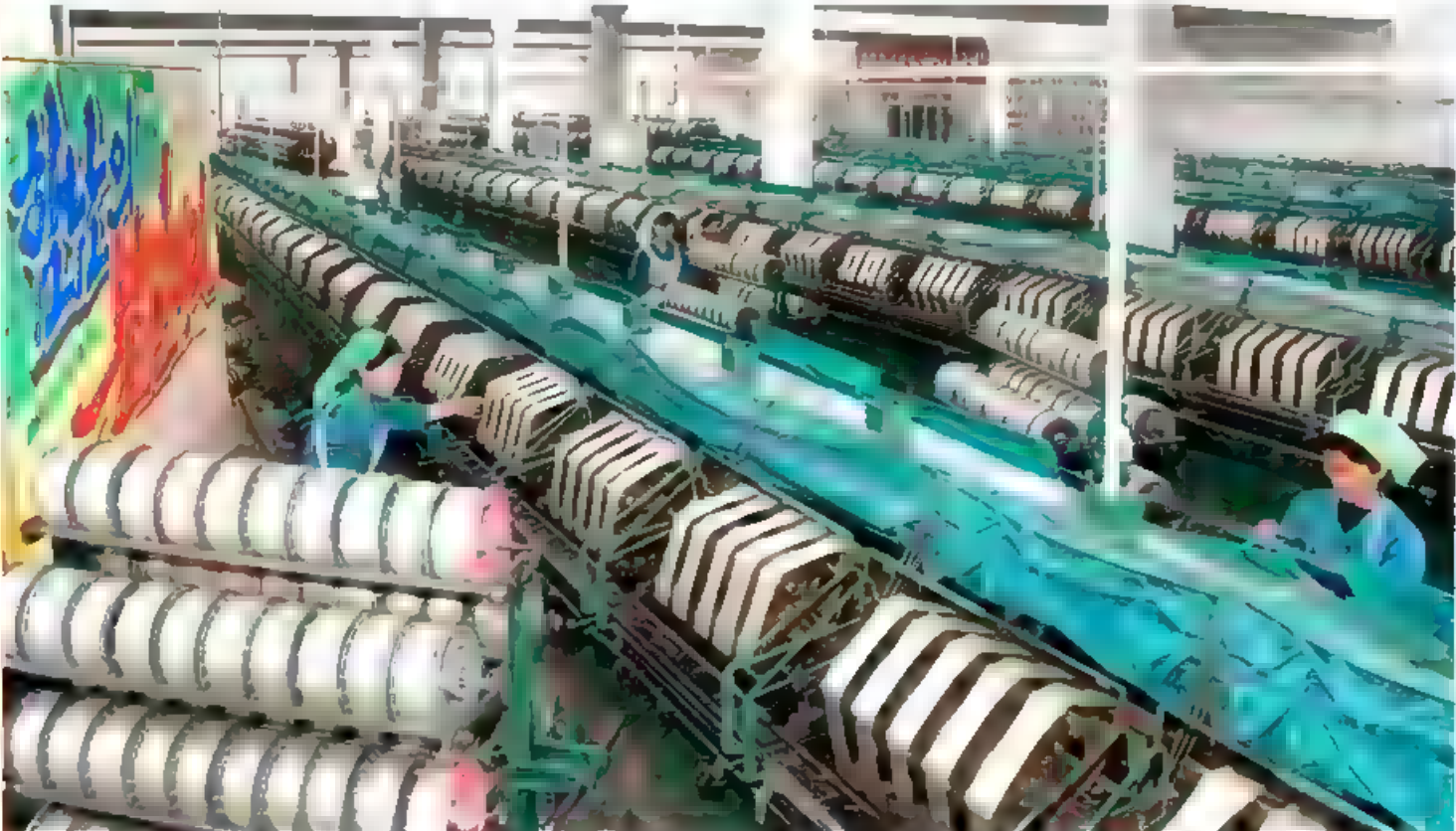
Ministries and national agencies send scrap iron to the Chollima Steel Complex



Civil servants of the ministries and national agencies do their first Friday labour of this year on a cooperative farm



The Chollima Steel Complex strives to increase steel production, upholding this year's joint editorial

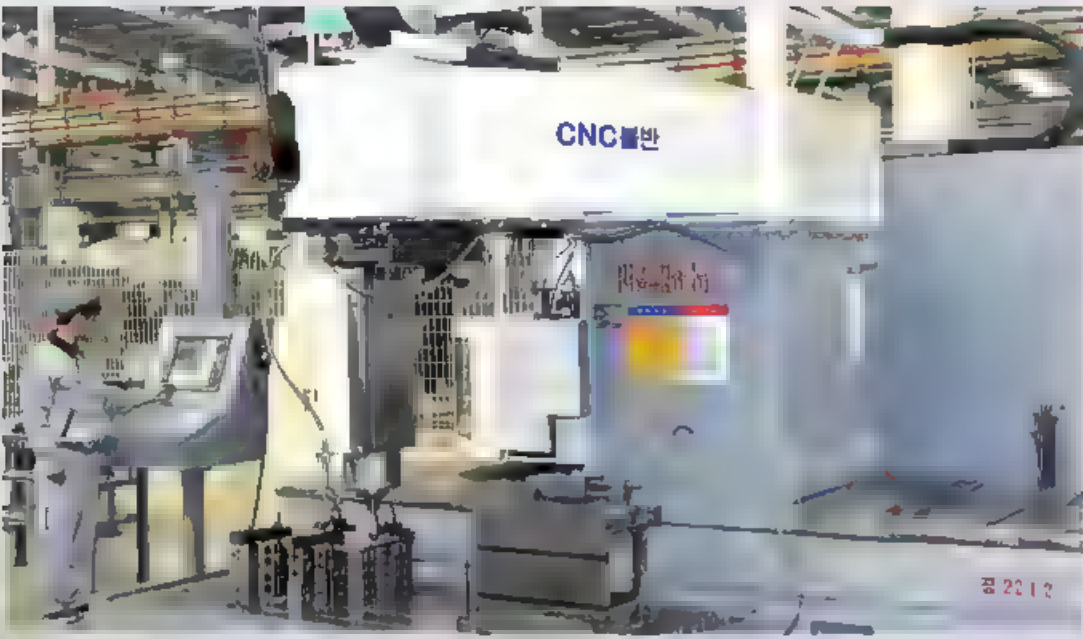


Workers make an innovation in silk thread production, following the flames of Hamnam (at the Pyongyang Kim Jong Suk Silk Mill)



Agricultural workers at the Migok Cooperative Farm, Samwon North Hwanghae Province are out to carry out the policy of the Workers' Party of Korea on agricultural revolution

At the Head of Pushing Back Frontiers of Science and Technology



Thanks to the deep interest and energetic leadership of Kim Jong Il who put forward the policy of attaching foremost importance to science and technology as a strategic policy for building a thriving nation, the Huichon Ryonha General Machine Factory has been built as an exemplary factory of knowledge-based industry in the new century. It is advancing in the vanguard of the nationwide campaign to push back the frontiers of science and technology for the carrying out of the tasks set forth in the decision of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the joint slogans of the Central Committee and the Central Military Commission of the WPK and this year's joint editorial.

Its predecessor, Huichon General Machine Tool Factory, has a history of nearly 60 years as the parent factory of the machine-tool industry in the DPRK.

Workers of the factory pooled their efforts with the Ryonha Machine producers in the van of industrial revolution in the new century to set up the present

Huichon Ryonha General Machine Factory two years before.

Covering an area of tens of thousands of square metres, the factory's building is packed with standard, high-performance CNC machine tools. Its walls and ceilings are well insulated, the temperature is regulated by the geothermal-based heating and cooling system.

Its officials, workers and technicians are bringing about a boost in the production firmly based on science and technology in order to manufacture in greater numbers the up-to-date machine tools conducive to developing the national economy and improving the people's standard of living.

The factory is now turning out the 4-, 5-, 8- and 9-axis machining centres and other high-performance CNC machine tools so as to satisfy the various demands by waging the vigorous mass technical innovation drive and enhancing the technological skill of the producer masses.

The factory succeeded in making on its own the main shaft, tool post, pressure intensifier, ball-joint screw and other parts of the CNC machine tools, for which they had formerly depended on imports, and thus sharply increased the proportion of home-made parts.

The working people of the factory are setting an excellent example in the era of the knowledge-based economy, upholding the slogans "Break through the cutting edge!" and "Higher and faster!"

Article & photos: Choe Il Ho



Vinalon Production



Production of quality vinalon fibre increases after the production lines were modernized

The February 8 Vinalon Complex set up a modern vinalon factory two years ago, which was a great event for the whole nation. Today the complex is bringing about an upsurge in production by demonstrating its might as a gigantic Juche fibre producer.

Last year officials, technicians and workers of the complex newly built a horizontal spinning process whose capacity is several times higher than that of the existing vertical production process, and fibre production line. They accelerated construction project by actively introducing advanced methods, and manufactured and assembled hundreds of equipment and installations in 70 kinds including spinning machines and heat treatment equipment by their own efforts, pooling their creative wisdom.

And it built up a Korean type of cyclic boiler, an air-tight carbide electric furnace and a red-coal making process, and thus upgraded the preceding processes of vinalon production.

With the pride of having opened up bright prospects of production, the employees of the complex conduct maintenance of facilities and technical management in a proper way to operate every machine at full capacity. The workers make further efforts to raise their technical skills and strictly observe the standard manuals and technical regulations so that quality vinalon fibre is produced in large quantities.

The complex also makes a great deal of efforts to produce varieties of chemical goods from vinalon intermediate products.

The workers of the February 8 Vinalon Com-

plex continue to speed up their advance to carry out the tasks set forth in the decision of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the joint slogans of the WPK Central Committee and Central Military Commission and this year's joint editorial, out of desire to implement the lifetime instructions of Kim Jong Il.

Article & photos: Pak Pyong Hun



Renovated Tudan Duck Farm



A hatchery



An outdoor duck house

Restaurants and shops in Pyongyang, including the duck-specializing restaurant at Thongil Street, serve delicious and nutritious duck. The meat is provided by the Tudan Duck Farm on the bank of the picturesque Taedong River in Pyongyang.

The farm has a history of over 50 years that contributed to improving the dietary life of Pyongyangites. It underwent technical reconstruction last year.

Tens of duck houses and outdoor duck houses in fine arrays, a building for producing fermented and animal-protein feed, a scientific and technological information centre, a smokehouse, processes for producing organic complex fertilizers and biogas and well-paved roads lined with fruit trees in the compound of the farm... The farm renders such a beautiful scenery like a scroll of picture.

Indoor and outdoor houses which have been expanded are flocked with ducklings, fattening and breeding ducks, and duck eggs are hatched by means of nano technology.

Fermented and animal-protein feed is produced on a scientific basis, thus reducing feed consumption per kg and reducing the fattening period by 15 days.

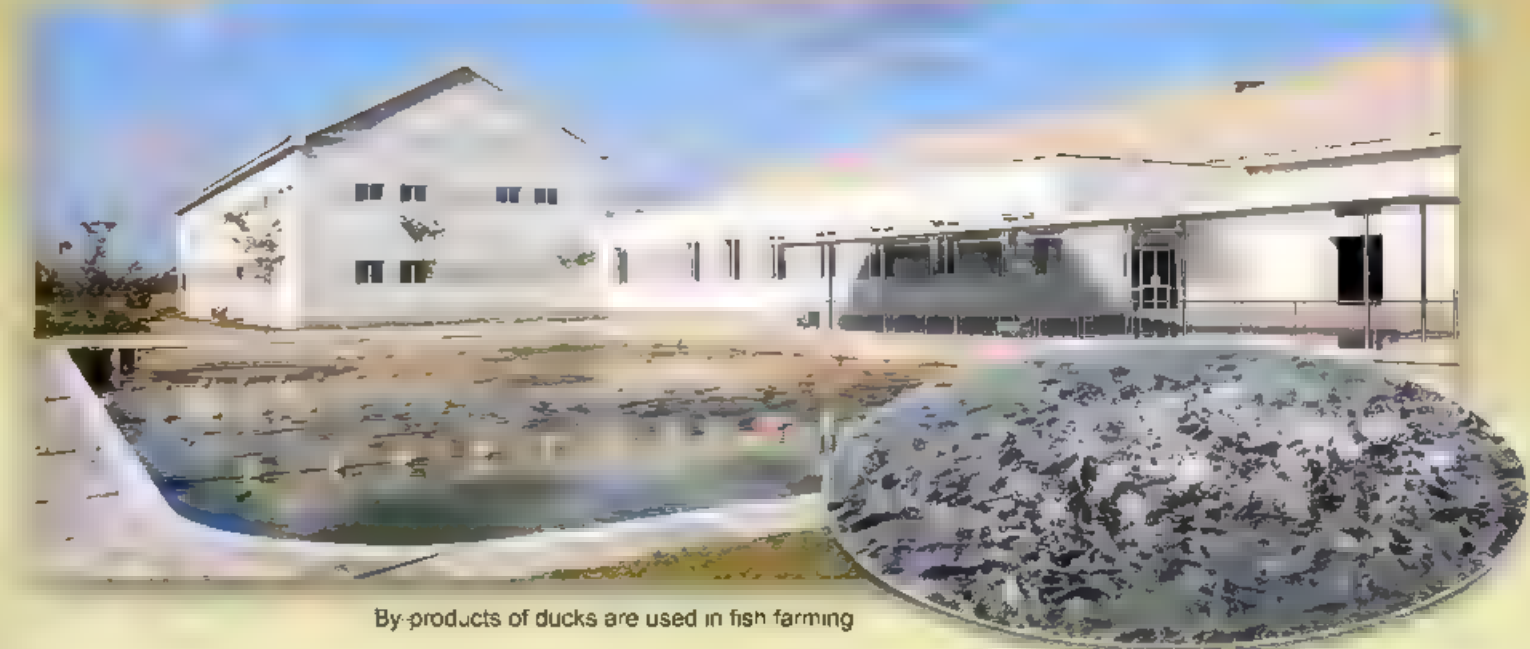
The general control room of the farm supervises with computers all the processes, such as the production of composite microzyme and fermented feed, incubation of eggs, sterilization, and processing.

The farm has also a modern line of producing nano antibiotic solutions for effective anti-epizootic work.

The farm's employees spend much time at the information centre to improve their technical knowledge and skills.

They increase duck production, so as to contribute to fulfill the lofty desire of Kim Jong Il who strove to make the people's life richer.

Article: Choe Kwang Hynk
Photos: Kim Kum Jin



By-products of ducks are used in fish farming

National Symphony Orchestra

The National Symphony Orchestra, the centre for developing symphonic music in the DPRK, made its debut with the performance of the immortal revolutionary hymn *Song of General Kim Il Sung* in 1946, the year after Korea's liberation from the Japanese military occupation.

It was since the early 1970s that it began to gain prestige as an orchestra winning favour of the people.

There are many folk songs and excellent pieces of music much in vogue among the people in Korea, known as the land of morning calm from olden times. Korea's symphonic music, however, which only made its start, failed to enjoy popularity, for it mechanically played the classical symphonic pieces instead of those dealing with the realities.

Thanks to the revolution in the Juche-oriented art and literature brought about in Korea under the leadership of Kim Jong Il, the country's symphonic music entered the new path of its development. Kim Jong Il developed the National Symphony Orchestra for the first time in Korea into a full symphony orchestra staffed with 120-odd musicians in January 1970.

The full symphony orchestra rendered it possible to create a Korean-style

orchestra, which combines the Korean instruments with the Western ones and which can play Korean folk songs as well as famous musical pieces.

The audience love the mixed orchestral pieces as they vividly portray their real life by means of their national instruments with clear tone colour that the Western ones fail to produce.

The orchestral pieces *The Girl on the Swing*, *The Dear Home in My Native Village*, *A Bumper Harvest in the Chongsan Plain* and *Arirang*, symphonic piece *The Sea of Blood* and piano concerto *To a Decisive Battle* are the masterpieces that constitute the foundations of the Korean-style symphonic music. The orchestral piece *A Bumper Harvest in the Chongsan Plain* in particular constitutes a valuable asset of Korean music as it pictures the life of the co-operative farmers in Chongsan-ri reaping a bumper harvest every year and leading a happy life under the wise leadership of President Kim Il Sung.

This full symphony orchestra of Korea is applauded loudly at home and in many countries of Asia and Europe. The artistes in various countries gave unstinted praise to the symphonic pieces it has produced, saying that the Korean symphony can be easily understood and is admired by everyone for its rendition of folk songs and famous music pieces well-known among the peo-

ple as well as its well organized elements and ensemble.

At present this orchestra can render more than 120 Korean symphonic pieces and is on a par with the world's prestigious symphony orchestras not only in form and scale but in the presentation and ensemble as required by the developing trend of modern orchestra and the times.

It has produced many People's and Merited artists and actors and actresses, like Ri Myon Sang, Ho Jae Bok and Paek Ko San, and promising musicians of younger generation are active as its pillars.

The music connoisseurs from various countries, after seeing the performance of the orchestra, commented as follows:

"Every player is well trained and has high ability to concentrate. Its conductor reminds me of a world-famous Italian conductor," "I've already heard that the Korean National Symphony Orchestra has a very high level. As they say seeing is believing, I saw with my own eyes that this performing is more excellent than I knew by hearsay."

The orchestra is performing the European classical music and world symphonic pieces as well as Korean ones. It has given performances in many countries, and is promoting artistic exchanges through the joint performances with conductors, musicians and soloists from foreign countries.

Now the artistes of the National Symphony Orchestra are making endeavours to further shine the achievements of Kim Jong Il in developing symphony and produce more symphonic pieces conducive to encouraging the people in their efforts to build a thriving nation.

Article & photos: Kim Kyong Hu





Taedonggang Terrapin Farm

Taedonggang Terrapin Farm has been newly built, thus ensuring mass-production of terrapins known as a material for tonics, thanks to the policy of the Workers' Party of Korea for the good of the people.

The place it occupies was once called a terrapin valley as there were many terrapins there. It covers an area of nearly 20 000 m².

The general view of the farm looks like that of a resort and, what is more fantastic is terrapins swarming in standardized ponds.

Kim Jong Il gave on-site guidance at the farm in October last year. The officials, workers and technicians of the farm are now making great successes

in breeding terrapins, with a firm determination to carry out his field instructions to make the people enjoy the real benefits from it.

It takes 4-5 years for terrapins to mature under the natural conditions. But in the farm terrapins are bred in only one year as big as a lid of a pot and weighing over 0.5 kg.

The farm will produce 25 000 terrapins this year, and after 2-3 years over 100 000 every year.

It also breeds tropical goldfish.

Article & photos: Kwon Hyok Chol



Various terrapin dishes are served to people.



Researchers at the Korea Jongsong Medical Complex at a consultative meeting.

More Efficacious Medicines



An inspection centre.



Pills and capsules are manufactured.



The Korea Jongsong Medical Complex, founded in 1995, is making a great contribution to the promotion of the people's health with development and production of efficacious pharmaceuticals.

When it started work, it was staffed with over 10 employees and had only a few shabby machines and equipment for laboratory experiment.

Its products were limited in its kind.

However, it set a goal of attaining the high level, and made strenuous efforts to develop it into a general centre for research, development and production of pharmaceutical goods.

Now it has updated its production lines, from the feeding of raw materials to the packing of finished products. It has a research institute, an inspection centre and factories producing pills, biological medicine, solutions for injection, liquid medicine and capsules.

The complex makes its utmost efforts to develop technology and ensure high quality of its products.

In recent years it has developed and produced more than 20 kinds of new medicines in close relations with several scientific research institutions.

It strictly abides by the GMP of the WHO in its supply of raw materials, production processes, quality inspection, production control and sale service.

It has established the perfect quality control system guaranteeing the efficacy and safety of products and newly developed drugs by making good use of modern analyzing facilities and cutting-edge technology.

About 130 kinds of medicines including *Paclitaxel* injections and antituberculous capsules and such traditional Korean medicines as *Tongchunghachogo* and *Kugijago* are produced here and served at hospitals and pharmacies.

The complex is striving to faithfully serve the people.

Article: Kim Son Gyeong
Photos: Kim Kum Jin



Medicines of the complex have a good sale.



On the Namdae Gate in Kaesong.

Folk Holiday

Lunar January 15th



It is a long-standing tradition of the Korean nation to enjoy the lunar January 15th as a folk holiday. People in the Kaesong area have enjoyed the holiday, playing folk games, holding ceremonial functions and eating peculiar national dishes.

Kaesong is a city with a long history.

Kaesong was the capital of Koryo (918-1392), the first unified state of Korea.

On the holiday the city was full of fantastic scenes—welcoming the first full moon, stacking grain stalks for wishing for a rich harvest for that year, a tug of war, kite-flying and *yut* game.

Among the favourite folk plays was *taribalbi* (walking on a bridge). People believed that leg diseases would be cured when walking on a bridge on the holiday. Now a bridge, which is called Ya Bridge, can be found in the Kaesong area.

Special holiday dishes in the Kaesong area include *yakbap*, *ogokbap*, cold noodles and nine dried herbs.

In the evening people view the first full moon, hoping for a happier future.

Article & photos: Pak Chang Bok

Historical Relic

Five-tiered Pagoda at Pulil Temple



